

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance.

It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, and the remarks that follow as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes and remarks are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended and claims 3 and 6-15 have been canceled, without prejudice. No new matter is added by these amendments. Support for the recitations in the claims is found throughout the specification. Cancellation of claims 3 and 6-15 should not be construed as an agreement by Applicants with the Examiner's rejections. Applicants reserve the right to continue prosecution of any or all of these rejected claims in one or more continuation applications.

Claims 1, 5-11 and 13-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) allegedly as being unpatentable over Mazaki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,124,913) in further view of Tsujikawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,320,628) and Omae et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,570,215). As previously mentioned, claims 6-11 and 13-15 have been canceled.

For example, claim 1, as amended herein, recites in part, "A liquid crystal display projector apparatus... comprising... a single optical compensator for compensating for an optical

phase difference caused by liquid crystal molecules having pretilt angles in a light entry side of the liquid crystal panel, said single optical compensator being located between the liquid crystal panel and the analyzer thereby receiving a light through the microlenses, wherein a rotational angle of said optical compensator is selected so as to provide the best contrast of the image projected on the screen generated by said incoming light bundle having an incident angle in a range of 10 degrees to 15 degrees." (Underlining and bold added for emphasis.)

It is respectfully submitted that the portions of Mazaki, Tsujikawa and Omae relied upon by the Examiner do not teach, suggest or motivate a skilled artisan to practice at least the above-recited feature of claim 1.

Mazaki discloses a compensator capable of making both color compensation and viewing angle compensation for a liquid crystal cell used in a liquid crystal display which is driven in an OCB mode but there is no teaching or recognition in Masaki to use the compensator for a projector having a liquid crystal panel with a plurality of twisted liquid crystal molecules. Tsujikawa discloses a projection type color liquid apparatus having a microlens array to converge the color components of a luminous flux but there is no teaching or recognition in Tsujikawa regarding an optical compensator. Omae discloses a projection displaying apparatus having a phase difference means to be disposed between the polarizing plate on the incident side and the liquid crystal cell or between liquid crystal cell and the polarizing plate on the outgoing side (Col 4 Line 29-34, but there is no teaching or recognition in Omae regarding the location of the phase difference means for a liquid crystal panel having microlenses.

Accordingly, Masaki, Tsujikawa, and Omae do not disclose "...a single optical compensator for compensating for an optical phase difference caused by liquid crystal molecules having pretilt angles in a light entry side of the liquid crystal panel, said single optical

compensator being located between the liquid crystal panel and the analyzer thereby receiving a light through the microlenses, wherein a rotational angle of said optical compensator is selected so as to provide the best contrast of the image projected on the screen generated by said incoming light bundle having an incident angle in a range of 10 degrees to 15 degrees.” (Underlining and bold added for emphasis.) Therefore, the instant claims are believed to be distinguishable from the applied combination of Mazaki, Tsujikawa and Omae for at least the reasons stated above.

Claim 5 depends from claim 1 and, due to such dependency, is also believed to be distinguishable from the applied combination of Mazaki, Tsujikawa and Omae for at least the reasons previously described.

Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Mazaki, Tsujikawa and Omae be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 2-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) allegedly as being unpatentable over Mazaki et al. in further view of Tsujikawa et al., Omae et al. and Gunning et al. (EP 0622656). As previously mentioned, claim 3 has been canceled.

Claims 2 and 4 depend from claim 1, and, due to such dependency, are also believed to be distinguishable from Mazaki, Tsujikawa and Omae as applied by the Examiner for at least the reasons previously described. The Examiner does not appear to rely on Gunning to overcome the above-identified deficiencies of Mazaki, Tsujikawa and Omae. Therefore, claims 2 and 4 are believed to be distinguishable from the applied combination of Mazaki, Tsujikawa, Omae and Gunning.

Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of claims 2 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Mazaki, Tsujikawa, Omae and Gunning be reconsidered and withdrawn.

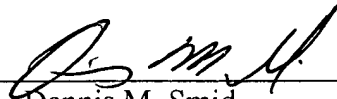
In the event that the Examiner disagrees with any of the foregoing comments concerning the disclosures in the cited documents, it is requested that the Examiner indicate where in the reference or references, is there a basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any fees incurred by reason of this response and not paid herewith to
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Respectfully submitted,

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